

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94-279 inserted provisions setting particular effective dates of compliance for intermediate handlers and carriers and for dealers, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, and research facilities with respect to the amendments made by the Animal Welfare Act Amendments of 1976.

§ 2155. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section, Pub. L. 89-544, §25, as added Pub. L. 91-579, §22, Dec. 24, 1970, 84 Stat. 1565; amended Pub. L. 94-279, §16, Apr. 22, 1976, 90 Stat. 421; Pub. L. 104-66, title I, §1012(a), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 711, which required the Secretary of Agriculture to submit an annual report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on licensing, investigation, inspection, and other activity related to carrying out this chapter, terminated, effective May 15, 2000, pursuant to section 3003 of Pub. L. 104-66, as amended, set out as a note under section 1113 of Title 31, Money and Finance. See, also, page 44 of House Document No. 103-7.

§ 2156. Animal fighting venture prohibition**(a) Sponsoring or exhibiting an animal in an animal fighting venture****(1) In general**

Except as provided in paragraph (2), it shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly sponsor or exhibit an animal in an animal fighting venture, if any animal in the venture was moved in interstate or foreign commerce.

(2) Special rule for certain states

With respect to fighting ventures involving live birds in a State where it would not be in violation of the law, it shall be unlawful under this subsection for a person to sponsor or exhibit a bird in the fighting venture only if the person knew that any bird in the fighting venture was knowingly bought, sold, delivered, transported, or received in interstate or foreign commerce for the purpose of participation in the fighting venture.

(b) Buying, selling, delivering, or transporting animals for participation in animal fighting venture

It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly sell, buy, transport, deliver, or receive for purposes of transportation, in interstate or foreign commerce, any dog or other animal for purposes of having the dog or other animal participate in an animal fighting venture.

(c) Use of Postal Service or other interstate instrumentality for promoting or furthering animal fighting venture

It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly use the mail service of the United States Postal Service or any instrumentality of interstate commerce for commercial speech for purposes of promoting or in any other manner furthering an animal fighting venture except as performed outside the limits of the States of the United States.

(d) Violation of State law

Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, the activities prohibited by such subsection shall be unlawful with respect

to fighting ventures involving live birds only if the fight is to take place in a State where it would be in violation of the laws thereof.

(e) Buying, selling, delivering, or transporting sharp instruments for use in animal fighting venture

It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly sell, buy, transport, or deliver in interstate or foreign commerce a knife, a gaff, or any other sharp instrument attached, or designed or intended to be attached, to the leg of a bird for use in an animal fighting venture.

(f) Investigation of violations by Secretary; assistance by other Federal agencies; issuance of search warrant; forfeiture; costs recoverable in forfeiture or civil action

The Secretary or any other person authorized by him shall make such investigations as the Secretary deems necessary to determine whether any person has violated or is violating any provision of this section, and the Secretary may obtain the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of the Treasury, or other law enforcement agencies of the United States, and State and local governmental agencies, in the conduct of such investigations, under cooperative agreements with such agencies. A warrant to search for and seize any animal which there is probable cause to believe was involved in any violation of this section may be issued by any judge of the United States or of a State court of record or by a United States magistrate judge within the district wherein the animal sought is located. Any United States marshal or any person authorized under this section to conduct investigations may apply for and execute any such warrant, and any animal seized under such a warrant shall be held by the United States marshal or other authorized person pending disposition thereof by the court in accordance with this subsection. Necessary care including veterinary treatment shall be provided while the animals are so held in custody. Any animal involved in any violation of this section shall be liable to be proceeded against and forfeited to the United States at any time on complaint filed in any United States district court or other court of the United States for any jurisdiction in which the animal is found and upon a judgment of forfeiture shall be disposed of by sale for lawful purposes or by other humane means, as the court may direct. Costs incurred by the United States for care of animals seized and forfeited under this section shall be recoverable from the owner of the animals if he appears in such forfeiture proceeding or in a separate civil action brought in the jurisdiction in which the owner is found, resides, or transacts business.

(g) Definitions

For purposes of this section—

(1) the term “animal fighting venture” means any event which involves a fight between at least two animals and is conducted for purposes of sport, wagering, or entertainment except that the term “animal fighting venture” shall not be deemed to include any activity the primary purpose of which involves the use of one or more animals in hunting another animal;

(2) the term “interstate or foreign commerce” means—

(A) any movement between any place in a State to any place in another State or between places in the same State through another State; or

(B) any movement from a foreign country into any State or from any State into any foreign country;

(3) the term “instrumentality of interstate commerce” means any written, wire, radio, television or other form of communication in, or using a facility of, interstate commerce;

(4) the term “State” means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States;

(5) the term “animal” means any live bird, or any live dog or other mammal, except man; and

(6) the conduct by any person of any activity prohibited by this section shall not render such person subject to the other sections of this chapter as a dealer, exhibitor, or otherwise.

(h) Conflict with State law

(1) The provisions of this chapter shall not supersede or otherwise invalidate any such State, local, or municipal legislation or ordinance relating to animal fighting ventures except in case of a direct and irreconcilable conflict between any requirements thereunder and this chapter or any rule, regulation, or standard hereunder.

(2) Omitted

(i) Criminal penalties

The criminal penalties for violations of subsection (a), (b), (c), or (e) are provided in section 49 of title 18.

(Pub. L. 89-544, § 26, as added Pub. L. 94-279, § 17, Apr. 22, 1976, 90 Stat. 421; amended Pub. L. 101-650, title III, § 321, Dec. 1, 1990, 104 Stat. 5117; Pub. L. 107-171, title X, §§ 10302(a), 10303(a), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 491, 492; Pub. L. 110-22, § 3, May 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 88.)

CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of section 26 of Pub. L. 89-544, as added by Pub. L. 94-279. Subsec. (h)(2) of section 26 of Pub. L. 89-544, as added by Pub. L. 94-279, amended section 3001(a) of Title 39, Postal Service.

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2007—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-22, § 3(1), substituted “instrumentality of interstate commerce for commercial speech” for “interstate instrumentality”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110-22, § 3(2), substituted “such subsection” for “such subsections”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 110-22, § 3(3), added subsec. (e) and struck out former subsec. (e) which read as follows: “Any person who violates subsection (a), (b), or (c) of this section shall be fined not more than \$15,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both, for each such violation.”

Subsec. (g)(1). Pub. L. 110-22, § 3(4)(A), struck out “or animals, such as waterfowl, bird, raccoon, or fox hunting” after “hunting another animal”.

Subsec. (g)(3). Pub. L. 110-22, § 3(4)(B), added par. (3) and struck out former par. (3) which read as follows: “the term ‘interstate instrumentality’ means telegraph, telephone, radio, or television operating in interstate or foreign commerce;”.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 110-22, § 3(5), added subsec. (i).

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-171, § 10302(a)(1), added subsec. (a) and struck out former subsec. (a) which read as follows: “It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly sponsor or exhibit an animal in any animal fighting venture to which any animal was moved in interstate or foreign commerce.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107-171, § 10302(a)(2), substituted “deliver, or receive” for “or deliver to another person or receive from another person”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 107-171, § 10302(a)(3), substituted “subsection (c) of this section” for “subsections (a), (b), or (c) of this section”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 107-171, § 10303(a)(1), inserted heading and substituted “\$15,000” for “\$5,000” in text.

Subsec. (g)(2)(B). Pub. L. 107-171, § 10303(a)(2), inserted “or from any State into any foreign country” before semicolon.

CHANGE OF NAME

“United States magistrate judge” substituted for “United States magistrate” in subsec. (f) pursuant to section 321 of Pub. L. 101-650, set out as a note under section 631 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107-171, title X, § 10302(b), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 492, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section] take effect 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act [May 13, 2002].”

Pub. L. 107-171, title X, § 10303(b), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 492, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] takes effect 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act [May 13, 2002].”

§ 2157. Release of trade secrets

(a) Release of confidential information prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any member of an Institutional Animal Committee to release any confidential information of the research facility including any information that concerns or relates to—

(1) the trade secrets, processes, operations, style of work, or apparatus; or

(2) the identity, confidential statistical data, amount or source of any income, profits, losses, or expenditures,

of the research facility.

(b) Wrongful use of confidential information prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any member of such Committee—

(1) to use or attempt to use to his advantages; or

(2) to reveal to any other person,

any information which is entitled to protection as confidential information under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Penalties

A violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this section is punishable by—

(1) removal from such Committee; and

(2)(A) a fine of not more than \$1,000 and imprisonment of not more than one year; or

(B) if such violation is willful, a fine of not more than \$10,000 and imprisonment of not more than three years.

(d) Recovery of damages by injured person; costs; attorney’s fee

Any person, including any research facility, injured in its business or property by reason of